

## Letter of Support for the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2020

U.S. Senator Tom Udall  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC, 20510

U.S. Representative Alan Lowenthal  
108 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Udall and Representative Lowenthal,

The undersigned organizations strongly support the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act as a comprehensive bill in Congress that adequately addresses the plastic pollution crisis. This bill shows a commitment to real solutions by reducing throwaway plastics and encouraging producer responsibility while combating false solutions such as incineration or a solitary focus on recycling.

The plastic pollution crisis has grown so massive that our waste management systems are unable to handle it. Without reducing plastic waste or holding producers accountable, the burden falls on local governments and taxpayers. This legislation provides the opportunity to create a circular economy of reusable products rather than throwaway plastics made from fossil fuels.

Plastics generate greenhouse gases at every phase of their life cycle: fossil fuel extraction and transport, refining and manufacturing, usage, waste management, and unmanaged plastic that permeates our land, water, and air. In 2019, it's estimated that plastic production and incineration emitted 850 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent to 189 500-megawatt coal-fired power plants operating at full capacity, and this is a conservative estimate (CIEL et al., 2019). It is clear we cannot solve the climate crisis without bold legislation aimed to mitigate plastic pollution.

Plastic pollution harms our environment and communities. Endangered wildlife eat and get caught in plastic pollution each year, suffering and dying as a result. Microplastics contaminate our air and drinking water and even the most remote places on Earth, from the Mariana Trench to the Arctic.

With the plastic industry's plan to increase production of plastic by 40 percent over the next decade comes a serious threat not only to wildlife and the climate, but also to public health and safety. Pollution from the plastic industry exposes communities to chemicals linked to cancer, birth defects, neurological damage, endocrine disruption and other serious health problems. Petrochemical facilities that create plastic and incinerators that burn plastic are often located in communities of color and low-income communities that bear the brunt of their dangerous pollution. The plastic pollution crisis is also an environmental justice crisis.

This bill builds on a growing nationwide movement anchored in local battles to fight the plastic pollution crisis. It will effectively reduce waste by phasing out certain plastic products, placing additional responsibility on manufacturers for waste management, restricting the export of plastic waste, and pausing new plastic production. The United States must be a global leader in confronting the plastic pollution crisis, and the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act charts the way forward. Senator Udall and Representative Lowenthal, we thank you for your critical leadership on this urgent issue.

Sincerely,

1000 Fountains	American Sustainable Business Council	Better Path Coalition
350 Butte County		Better World Shopper
350 Eastside	American University, Department of Environmental Science	Beyond Plastics
350 Eugene	AmPark EcoCore	Big Reuse
350 Fairfax	Anacostia Riverkeeper	Big Reuse
350 Kishwaukee	Anacostia Watershed Community Advisory Committee	Black Warrior Riverkeeper
350 Marin		Blue Frontier
350 New Orleans	Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.	Blue Sphere Foundation
350 Sacramento	Apalachicola Riverkeeper	Bluecology
350 Santa Cruz	Art Parts Creative Reuse Center	Boston Building Resources
350 Silicon Valley	Association of University Centers on Disabilities	Boston Clean Energy Coalition
350 South Bay Los Angeles	Atchafalaya Basinkeeper	Boulder Waterkeeper
350 Triangle	Audubon Naturalist Society	Break Free From Plastic
350 West Sound Climate Action	Awarehaus	Breast Cancer Action
350 Wichita	Ayer Recycling Committee	Breathe Easy Susquehanna County
350Brooklyn	Aytzim: Ecological Judaism	Breathe Project
5 Gyres	Azul	Bridgewater Green Committee
7th Generation Advisors	Azulita	Brooklyn Bridge CSA
Adventures in Waste	Backbone Campaign	Buckeye Environmental Network
Albany Berkeley Plastic Reduction Working Group	Bag Free Wichita	Bucks Environmental Action
Algalita Marine Research & Education	BAN SUP	Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
Alliance for a Green Economy	Battle Creek Alliance	BYO Madison
Alliance for Democracy (US)	Bay Area-System Change not Climate Change	Cafeteria Culture
Alliance of Climate and Environmental Stewards	Bayou City Waterkeeper	Cafeteria Culture
Already Devalued and Devastated Homeowners of Parsippany	Beaver County (PA) Marcellus Awareness Community	Cahaba Riverkeeper
Altamaha Riverkeeper	Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group	California Association of Sanitation Agencies
Alter Terra	Bergen SWAN	California Environmental Justice Coalition (CEJC)
American Bird Conservancy	Berks Gas Truth	California for Progress
American Public Health Association	Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT)	California Product Stewardship Council
	Berkshire Zero-Waste Initiative	California Young Democrats Environmental Caucus

Californians Against Waste	Church Women United in New York State	Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Californians for Western Wilderness	Circle Pines Center	Concerned Ohio River Residents
CALPIRG Students	Citizen's Coalition for a Safe Community.	Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Campaign for Renewable Energy	Citizens for Water	ConnPIRG Students
Canton Residents for a Sustainable, Equitable Future	Citizens Regeneration Lobby	Conscious Container
Cape Cod Anti-Litter Coalition Inc.	City of Greenbelt	Conservation Congress
Cape Fear River Watch	City of Winters	Conservation Law Foundation
Carol L Lindsey, Consulting, LLC	Clean Ocean Action	Container Recycling Institute
Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation	Clean Water Action	Cook Inletkeeper
CEA	Climate Action Group of the Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence	Coosa River Basin Initiative/Upper Coosa Riverkeeper
Center for Biological Diversity	Climate Action Mondays	Creation Care Action & Advocacy from the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church
Center for Coalfield Justice	Climate Crisis Policy	Cruzan Enterprises
Center for Environmental Health	Climate First: Replacing Oil and Gas (CFROG)	Crystal Coast Waterkeeper
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)	Climate Reality CWPA Chapter	Dama Distributing
Center for Sustainability at Ramapo College of New Jersey	Climate Reality Project Los Angeles Chapter	Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
Center for Zero Waste Design	Climate Reality Project: Pittsburgh & Southwestern PA	Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue
Central California Asthma Collaborative	Coachella Valley Waterkeeper	Designs For A Better World
CEO Pipe Organs/Golden Ponds Farm	Coalition Against the Pilgrim Pipeline NJ	Do Good Soaps and Suds
CERBAT: Center for Environmentally Responsible Building Alternatives	Colorado Medical Waste	Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition
Chelmsford Sustainability Committee	Colorado Riverkeeper	Don't Waste Arizona
Cherokee County Solid Waste	Columbia Riverkeeper	Earth Day Network
Chico 350/ 350 Butte County	Columbus Community Bill of Rights	Earth Democracy Committee
ChicoBag / To-Go Ware	Common Ground Compost LLC	Earth Ethics, Inc
Chirping Bird Society	Community Advocates for a Sustainable Environment	Earth Ethics, Inc.
Christian Reformed Church Office of Social Justice	Community SPOTLIGHT	Earth Island Institute
Christians For The Mountains	Concerned Citizens Against Industrial CAFOs	Earthworks

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice	Equitable Health Solutions, LLC	Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives
Eastern Region Association of Forest and Nature Schools	Extinction Rebellion Kentucky	Good Neighbor Steering Committee
EcoAction Arlington	Fairmont MN Peace Group	Grassroots Environmental Education
Ecological Rights Foundation	Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety (FACTS)	Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
Ecology Center	Family Farm Defenders	Green America
EcoPlum	Feminists in Action	Green Party of Nassau County
Ecosystem Strategies	FinalStraw	Green Party of Seattle
Elders Action Network	Florida Public Interest Research Group	Green Team, Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield
Elders Climate Action	FLOW (For Love of Water)	Green Up Your Life
Emily Fisher Photography	Frac Sand Sentinel: Project Outreach	Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Laurel MD	FracTracker Alliance	Greenebank Consulting
End of Waste Foundation, Inc.	Franciscan Action Network	GreenLatinos
Endangered Habitats League	FreshWater Accountability Project	Greenpeace USA
Endangered Species Coalition	Friends Committee on Legislation of California	Guernsey County Citizens Support on Drilling Issues
ENGN Civic Creative Center	Friends of Merrymeeting Bay	Gunpowder Riverkeeper
Environment America	Friends of the Earth US	Hands Across the Sand / Land
Environment and Human Health, Inc.	Friends of the Kaw	Hannah4Change
Environment California	Friends of the Wild Swan	Haw River Assembly
Environment Maine	Fund for Wild Nature	Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin	Future Frogmen, Inc.	Hawaii Public Health Association
Environmental Advocates of New York	Garrettsville Board of Public Affairs	Heal the Bay
Environmental Caucus of Florida	Gas Free Seneca	Health Promotion Consultants
Environmental Health Trust	Gas Free Seneca	Healthy Gulf (formerly Gulf Restoration Network)
Environmental Justice Center of Chestnut Hill United Church	Gazza Ladra Jewelry	HealthyPlanet
Environmental Protection Information Center	Genesis Farm	Heartwood
Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board	Geos Institute	Heirs To Our Oceans
Environmental Youth Council of St Augustine	Get Real Counseling & Education	Hesperian Health Guides
	Gila Resources Information Project	

Home ReSource	Louisiana Bucket Brigade	New Jersey Highlands Coalition
Honeydew Advisors	ManaSota-88, Inc.	New Jersey Tenants Organization
Hull Family Foundation	Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board	New Mexico Environmental Law Center
iEat Green, LLC	Marcellus Outreach Butler	New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light
Indivisible Georgia 04	Marin Sanitary Service	New Mexico Recycling Coalition
Indivisible OC 48	Maryknoll Sisters Eastern Region USA	New York Climate Action Group
Indivisible Pittsfield	MaryPIRG	New York Heartwoods
Inland Ocean Coalition	Mass Recycle	New York Progressive Action Network - Enviro Committee
Institute for Policy Studies	MendoRecycle	North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)
Interfaith Climate Action Network of the Interfaith Council of CCC	Metro N.Y. Catholic Climate Movement	North Bronx Social Justice
Interfaith Earthkeepers of Eugene/Springfield, OR	Mid-Missouri Peaceworks	North Country 350 Alliance
International Marine Mammal Project of Earth Island Institute	Milwaukee Riverkeeper	Northern Jaguar Project
Island Seafoods, Inc.	Mission Blue / Sylvia Earle Alliance	Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment
Its Easy Being Green	Missouri Confluence Waterkeeper	NY Buddhist Climate Action Network
Jackpine Savage Guide Service	Mothers Out Front	NY4WHALES
JamPac (Jamesville Positive Action Committee)	MountainTrue	NYC H2O
Jewish Climate Action Network MA	Movement for a People's Party	Ocean Conservation Research
John G. Shedd Aquarium	MSW Consultants, LLC	Oceana
Just Salad	Mythic Bridge Inc.	Oceanic Global
Justice Action Mobilization Network	NAACP Berkshire Branch	Oceanic Preservation Society
Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd	Ogeechee Riverkeeper
Klamath Forest Alliance	National Stewardship Action Council	Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
Labor Network for Sustainability	Natural Resources Council of Maine	Olympic Climate Action
League of Conservation Voters	Nature Coast Conservation, Inc.	Orange County Coastkeeper
Lee Greener Gateway Committee	NC WARN	Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Levanah Farm	Neighbors of the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River	OSPIRG
LINKCO Inc	Network of Spiritual Progressives	OVEC - Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
Living Rivers	New England Aquarium	
Lonely Whale		

Pasco Activists	QEW	School Without Walls at Francis Stevens DCPS
PAUSE - People of Albany United for Safe Energy	Quic Service Bike Shop	Sea Hugger
PDA, AZ Chapter	Rachel Carson Council	Seaside Sustainability
Peace Action New York State	Rachel's Network	Seaside Sustainability, Inc.
Peconic Baykeeper	Raritan Headwaters	Seattle Aquarium
Pelican Media	RE Sources	Seeding Sovereignty
Peninsula Interfaith Climate Action	Reach Out America	Seneca Lake Guardian
People Over Pipelines	Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association	Sequoia ForestKeeper®
People's Climate Movement - Capital Region	Recycle Across America	Shaw Institute
Physicians for Social Responsibility	Resist the Pipeline	Sierra Club
Physicians for Social Responsibility PA	Resource Renewal Institute	Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, US Youth Climate Strikes
Physicians for Social Responsibility, AZ Chapter	RESTORE: The North Woods	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas' Justice Team
Pinelands Preservation Alliance	Reuse International	Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, New York
Plastic Free Sharon	Rio Grande International Study Center	Sixth Street Community Center
Plastic Oceans International	River Guardian Foundation	Slow Food DC
Plastic Pollution Coalition	Riverdale Jewish Earth Alliance	Snake Conservation Society
Plastic Tides	RootsAction.org	Snake River Waterkeeper
Portland Community College	Safe Climate Campaign	SoCal 350 Climate Action
Post-Landfill Action Network	San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper	Society of Alternative Resources
Presentation Sisters	San Francisco Baykeeper	SocioEnergetics Foundation
Product Stewardship Institute	SanDiego350	South Asian Fund For Education, Scholarship and Training (SAFEST)
Progressive Democrats of America	Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition	South Carolina Interfaith Power and Light
Progressive Women of Pelham	Santa Cruz Climate Action Network	South Shore Recycling Cooperative
Project Coyote	Santa Fe Conservation Trust	South Yuba River Citizens League
Protect PT (Penn-Trafford)	Save Our Shores	Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
Public Citizen	Save Our Sky Blue Waters	Spokane Riverkeeper
Public Laboratory for Open Technology and Science	Save The Hills Alliance, Inc.	Spottswode Winery, Inc.
Puget Soundkeeper Alliance	Save The River Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper	
	Save Wolves Now Network	

St. William Catholic Church	The Lands Council	Vote-Climate
Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline	The Last Beach Cleanup	Wabash Riverkeeper Network/ Banks of the Wabash, Inc.
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion	The Last Plastic Straw	Wasatch Clean Air Coalition
Story of Stuff Project	The New School	Washtenaw 350
Strategy Zero Waste Solutions	The Rewilding Institute	Waste Task Force
Suncoast Waterkeeper	The River Project	WATCH, Inc
Sunrise Movement Bay Area	The Shame Free Zone	Waterkeeper Alliance
Sunrise Movement Howard County	The Story of Stuff Project	Waterkeepers Chesapeake
Surfrider Foundation	The Wei LLC	Weather Medic Inc
Sustainable McDonough	Think Zero LLC	WESPAC Foundation
Sustainable Ocean Alliance at the University of Maryland	Town of Wellfleet Recycling Committee	West 80s Neighborhood Association
Sustainable Sharon Coalition	Toxics Action Center	Western Watersheds Project
Sustainable Sudbury	Toxics Information Project (TIP)	White Rabbit Grove RDNA
Sustainable Upton	Transition Sebastopol	White River Waterkeeper
Sustaining Way	Tricounty NY Transition	Wholly H2O
SUX STRAWS LLC	Turtle Island Restoration Network	Wild Nature Institute
Tar Sands Action Southern California	U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG)	WILDCOAST
Tennessee Riverkeeper	Unexpected Wildlife Refuge	WildEarth Guardians/Rio Grande Waterkeeper
Texas Campaign for the Environment	Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN)	WilderUtopia
Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services (T.E.J.A.S.)	UO Climate Justice League	Willamette Riverkeeper
The 5 Gyres Institute	Upper West Side Recycling	Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center
The Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research, and Education (COARE)	UPSTREAM	Winyah Rivers Alliance
The Climate Mobilization Hoboken Chapter	Urban Bird Foundation	Women Working for Oceans
The Climate Mobilization-Santa Barbara Chapter	UU FaithAction NJ	Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, US
The Enviro Show	Valley Improvement Projects (VIP)	WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc.
The Grail in the US	Valley Watch, Inc.	Yellowstone to Uintas Connection
The Great American Rain Barrel	Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG)	Young Democrats of America Environmental Caucus
	Vessel Revolution	Zanker Recycling
	Vokashi, Inc.	Zero Waste Arlington

Zero Waste Kauai

Zero Waste Marin

Zero Waste Society

Zero Waste Washington